Apply for this fellowship

Spend the summer serving New York’s coastal communities with your law and policy knowledge in collaboration with New York Sea Grant! This fellowship will provide one student from each partner institution (City University of New York School of Law (CUNY); Cornell Law School; Pace University School of Law (Pace); and, University at Buffalo School of Law (UB)) with an opportunity to collaborate with New York Sea Grant and interact with local communities.

New York Sea Grant is looking for law students who are interested in applying their legal skills to real-world problems to benefit local communities and governments. Potential projects could address the following topics:

- Flooding and policy implications related to planning, managed retreat, water quality management, FEMA Community Rating System and/or climate justice
- Off-shore wind energy development, including public participation opportunities
- Municipal liability related to surf hazards
- Develop model approach for developing Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Resilience Components
- Local code assessments and comparison to model codes and ordinances.

Our program expects summer fellows to gain experience:

- interacting with communities/governments in need of the legal research and tools;
- researching existing legal regimes and administrative practices;
- assessing efficacy of the practices and making recommendations for improvement;
- drafting public facing documents to report research findings to present to affected communities and decision-makers;
- preparing community toolkits/guides to translate legal knowledge;
- building community capacity to understand policies and participate in decision-making; AND,

• working with and creating knowledge alongside expert lawyers and other professionals.

Fellowship locations will be virtual or in person as appropriate:

- Brooklyn College
- Suffolk County Cooperative Extension
- Stony Brook University
- SUNY Oswego
- Ulster County Cooperative Extension
- University at Buffalo
- Westchester County Cooperative Extension

The full-time fellowships will run from June 6 to August 12, 2022. Successful students will participate in weekly webinars with other fellows and NYSG staff. A $5000 stipend will be provided. Limited travel funds MAY be available for fellows to present their work at a regional or national conference for nine months post-fellowship.

Successful applicants are excellent writers and problem-solvers who can work independently and meet deadlines. An interest in coastal law is encouraged but not necessary!

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, 2-3 page statement of interest in the project and work location, and transcript (need not be an official transcript) to Pat Hoyt, Administrator, prh22@cornell.edu. For full consideration, application materials should be received by 5pm Eastern time on February 11, 2022. Successful applicants should expect to be notified by March 11, 2022. Proof of health insurance will be required after acceptance!

For more information about New York Sea Grant and the New York Coastal Resilience Law and Policy Program, see nyseagrant.org/lawfellowships or contact Kathy Bunting-Howarth, Associate Director, kathybh@cornell.edu.